

ACT IV] **LADY WINDERMERE'S**
FAN **341**

Mrs. Erlynne. Yes, it is my will. And never forget
your child
—I like to think of you as a mother. I like you to
think of
yourself as one.

Lady Windermere. [*Looking up.*~| I always will now.
Only once
in my life I have forgotten my own mother—that
was last
night. Oh! if I had remembered her I should
not have been
so foolish, so wicked.

Mrs. Erlynne. {*With a slight shudder.*'} Hush,
last night is
quite over.

Enter Lord Windermere.

Lord Windermere. Your carriage has not come
back yet,

Mrs. Erlynne.

Mrs. Erlynne. It makes no matter. I'll take a
hansom. There
is nothing in the world so respectable as a good
Shrew^hury
and Talbot. And now, dear Lady Windermere, I
am afraid
it is really good-bye. [*Moves up C.J.*] Oh, I
remember.
You'll think me absurd, but do you know I've
taken a great
fancy to this fan that I was silly enough to run
away with
last night from your ball. Now, I wonder would
you give it
to me? Lord Windermere says you may. I know
it is his
present.

Lady Windermere. Oh, certainly, if it will give you
any pleasure.
But it has my name on it. It has "Margaret"
on it.

Mrs. Erlynne. But we have the same Christian
name.

Lady Windermere. Oh, I forgot. Of course, do
have it. What
a wonderful chance our names being the same!

Mrs. Erlynne. Quite wonderful. Thanks—it will
always remind
me of you. [*Shakes hands*
with her.

Enter Parker.

Parker. Lord Augustus Lorton. Mrs. Erlynne's
carriage has
come.

Enter Lord Augustus.

Lord Augustus. Good morning, dear boy. Good
morning, Lady
Windermere. [*Sees Mrs. Erlynne.*~| Mrs.
Erlynne!

Mrs. Erlynne. How do you do, Lord Augustus? Are
you quite
well this morning?

Lord Augustus. [*Coldly.*] Quite well, thank you,
Mrs. Erlynne.

Mrs. Erlynne. You don't look at all well, Lord
Augustus. You
stop up too late—it is so bad for you. You
really should
take more care of yourself. Good-bye, Lord
Windermere.

[*Goes towards door with a bow to Lord*
Augustus. Suddenly